



CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS SOUTH DOWNTOWN RAILROAD UNDERPASS RECONSTRUCTION

September 2020

Purpose



The City of Colorado Springs has initiated a study to determine the best approach for **optimal location** and **design** of two railroad bridges at the south end of downtown Colorado Springs. The aging bridges over South Nevada Avenue (70 years old) and S. Tejon Street (115 years old) are in **poor condition** and **require replacement**.



Goals

- Gain understanding of the **long-term needs** and **opportunities** for this **public infrastructure**
- Effectively address **railroad operational, maintenance and safety needs**
- Maintain and improve **traffic operations** on Nevada Avenue, Tejon Street, and intersecting streets
- Complete a **Quiet Zone study** and implement the findings
- Address **pedestrian and bicycle connectivity** and **safety** across the railroad tracks
- Design bridges and associated improvements that are compatible with and improve access to surrounding **neighborhoods and land uses**, and are supportive of **development opportunities**
- Design bridges and underpasses to be **welcoming and attractive**
- Address **cost effectiveness** to construct and maintain the bridges
- Develop an **improvement program and funding strategy** to provide financing through a combination of City, regional, federal, state and railroad sources
- Develop beneficial **internal and external City partnerships**
- **Inform the public and engage stakeholders** potentially impacted by the project

Project Process & Schedule

| PROJECT SCHEDULE | | | | FHU Project #: | | 118327-02 | |  | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|----|----|----------------|---|------------|----|---|------|---|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|------|----|----|----|
| City of Colorado Springs #T009229 | | | | Date: | | 2020-08-24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S Nevada/S Tejon UPRR/BNSF Underpass | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bridge Replacement Design Services | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| YEAR | 2020 | | | | 2021 | | | | 2022 | | | | 2023 | | | | 2024 | | | | 2025 | | | |
| TASK DESCRIPTION / MONTH | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| IC - PRELIMINARY DESIGN | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IC - PRELIMINARY DESIGN - CITY REVIEW | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IC - FUNDING PLAN & PD REPORT | | | | ■ | END PHASE IC (EXCEPT RR PE AGREEMENTS & REVIEW) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CITY - PROJECT CANDIDATE EVALUATION PROCESS | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EXECUTE RR PE AGREEMENTS | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CITY - BALLOT INITIATIVE ELECTION | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IC - RR PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEW | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | | |
| 2 - EXECUTE RR FE AGREEMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | | | |
| 2 - FINAL DESIGN | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| 2 - FINAL DESIGN - CITY/RR REVIEWS & FINAL SUBMITTAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| 2 - EXECUTE RR CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 3 - BIDDING & CONSTRUCTION | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

Project Process & Schedule

- 2018: Project Initiation and start of stakeholder and public outreach
- 2019: Planning – Alternatives evaluation and recommendation
- 2020-2021: Preliminary design and property owner/stakeholder engagement (current effort)
- 2022: November construction ballot initiative election
- 2023-2024: Final design and railroad negotiations
- 2025: Earliest year for start of construction

Alternative H (Reconstruction in existing railroad right-of-way)

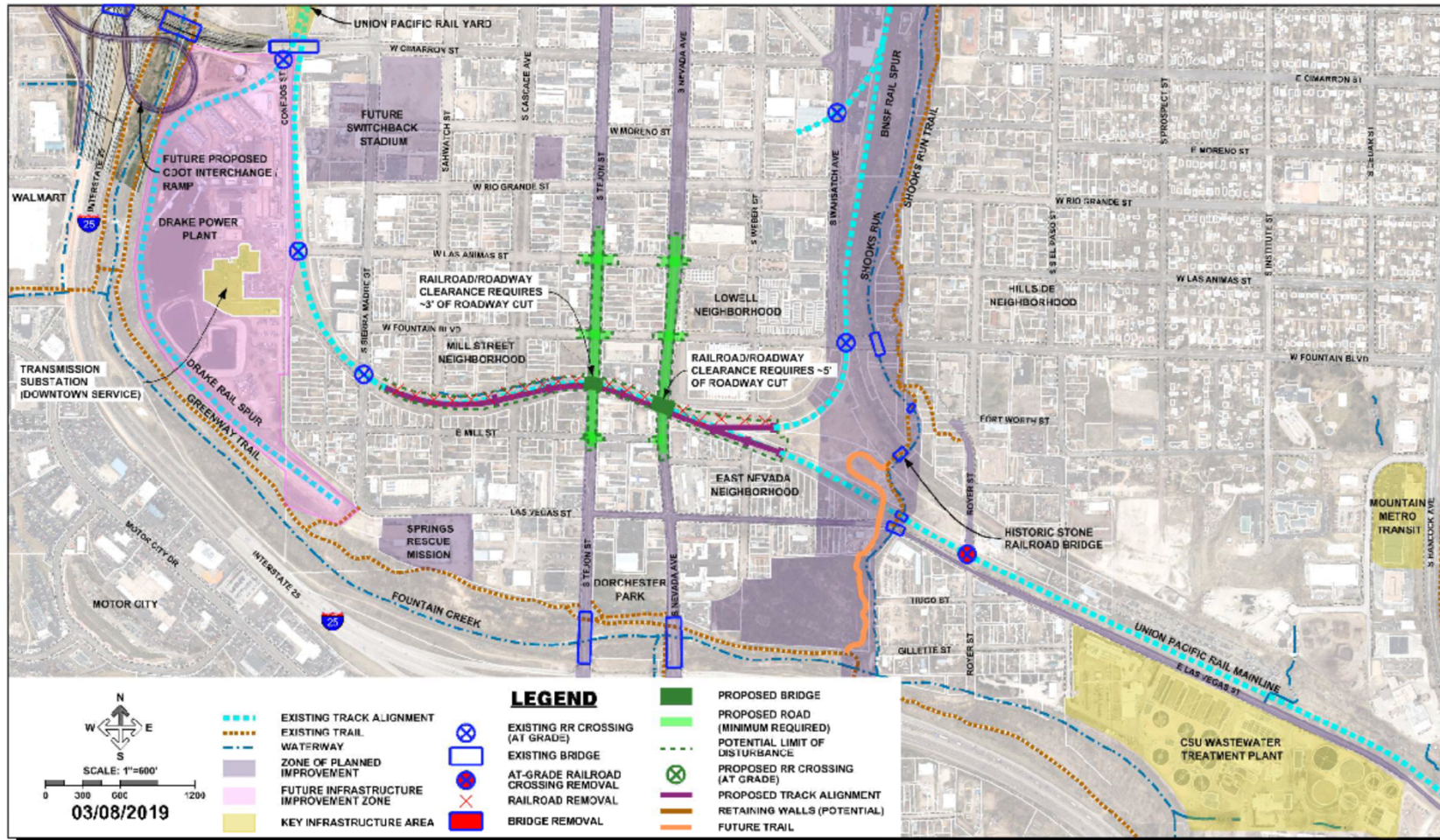


South Downtown Rail Underpass Reconstruction

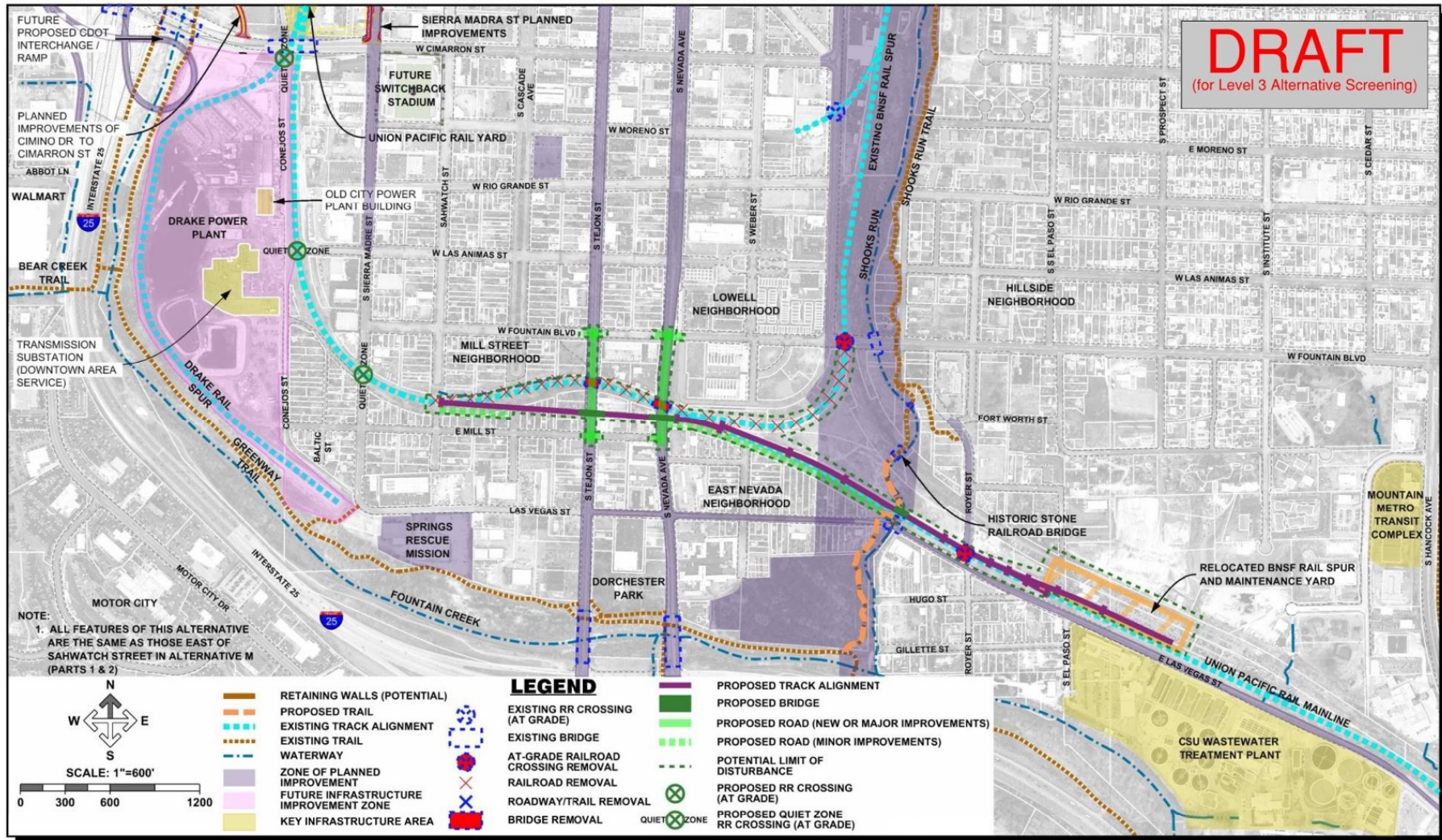
Alternative H - South Shift Alignment A (Inside Existing Railroad Right-of-Way)



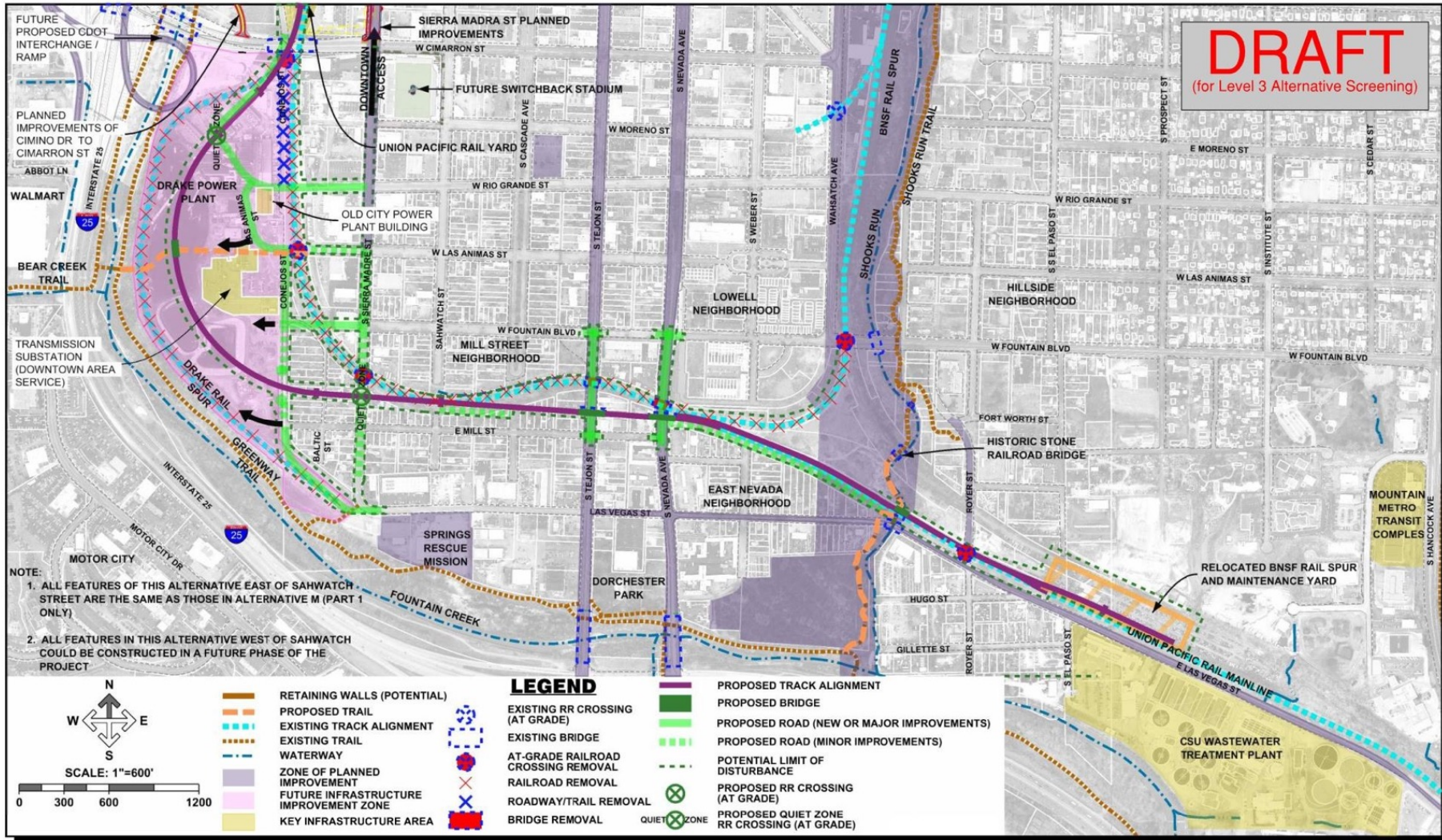
FIGURE H



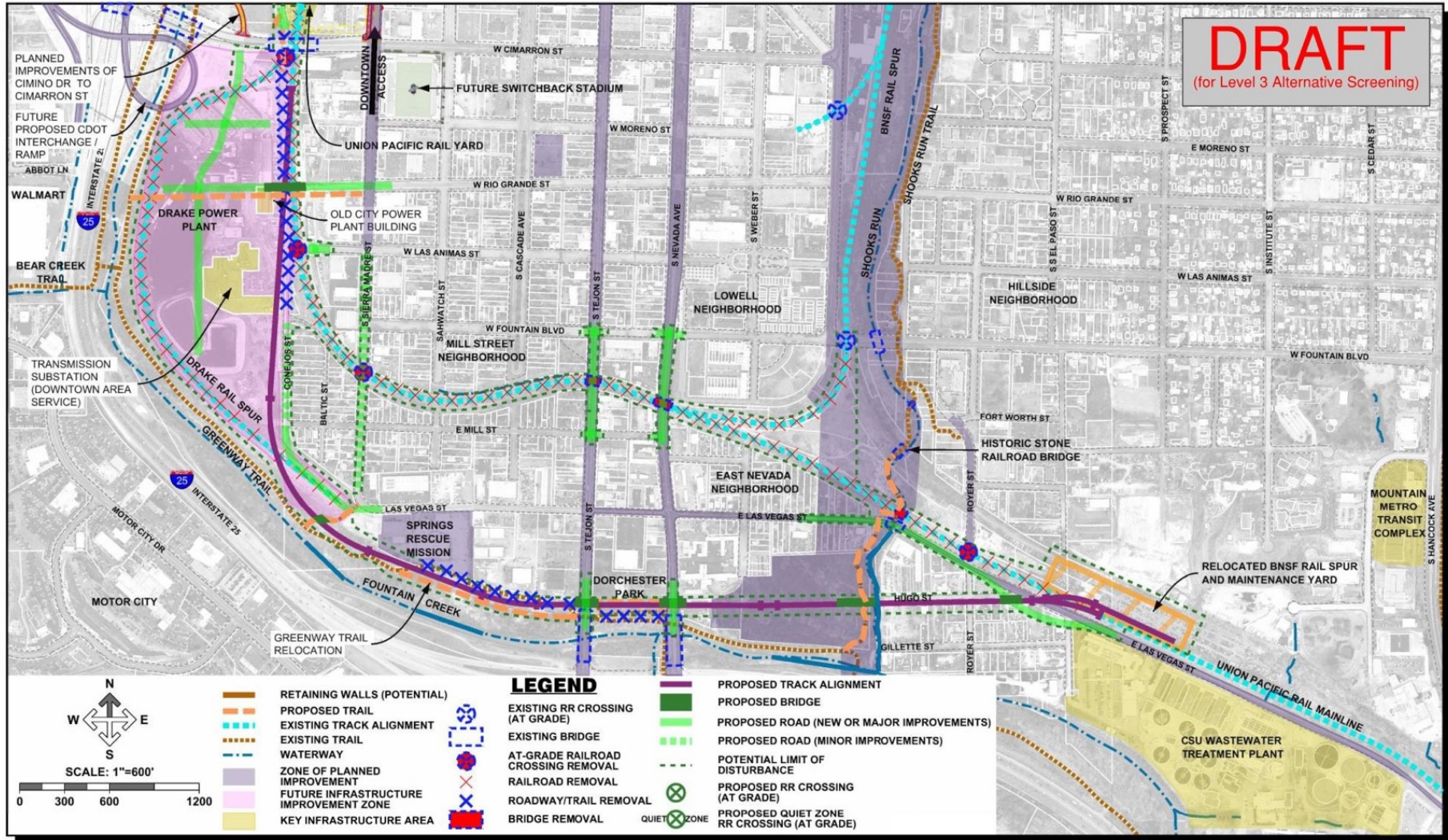
Alternative M1 (now identified as the preferred alternative)



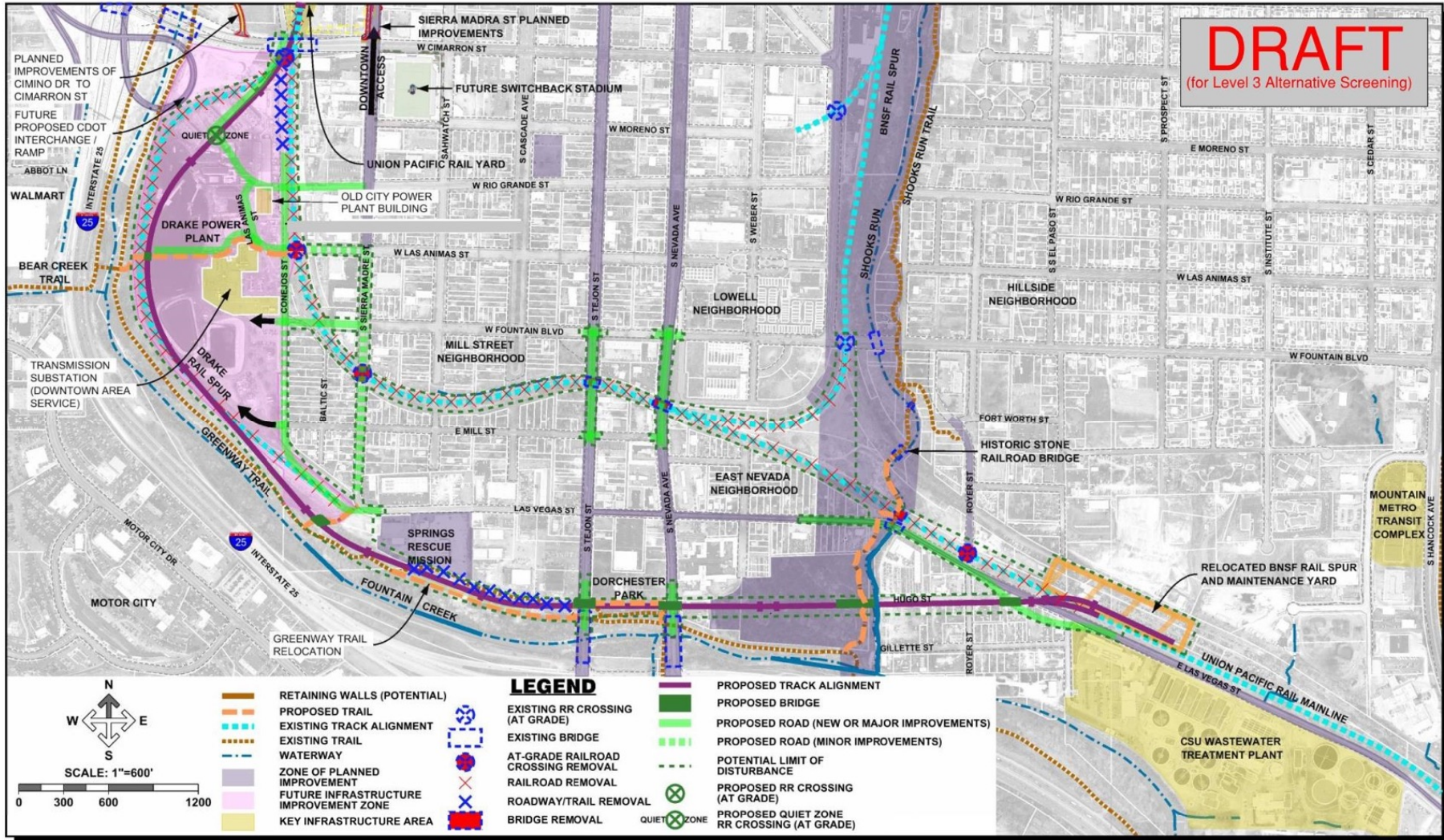
Alternative M (M1 and M2)



Alternative N (Eliminated)



Alternative O (Eliminated)

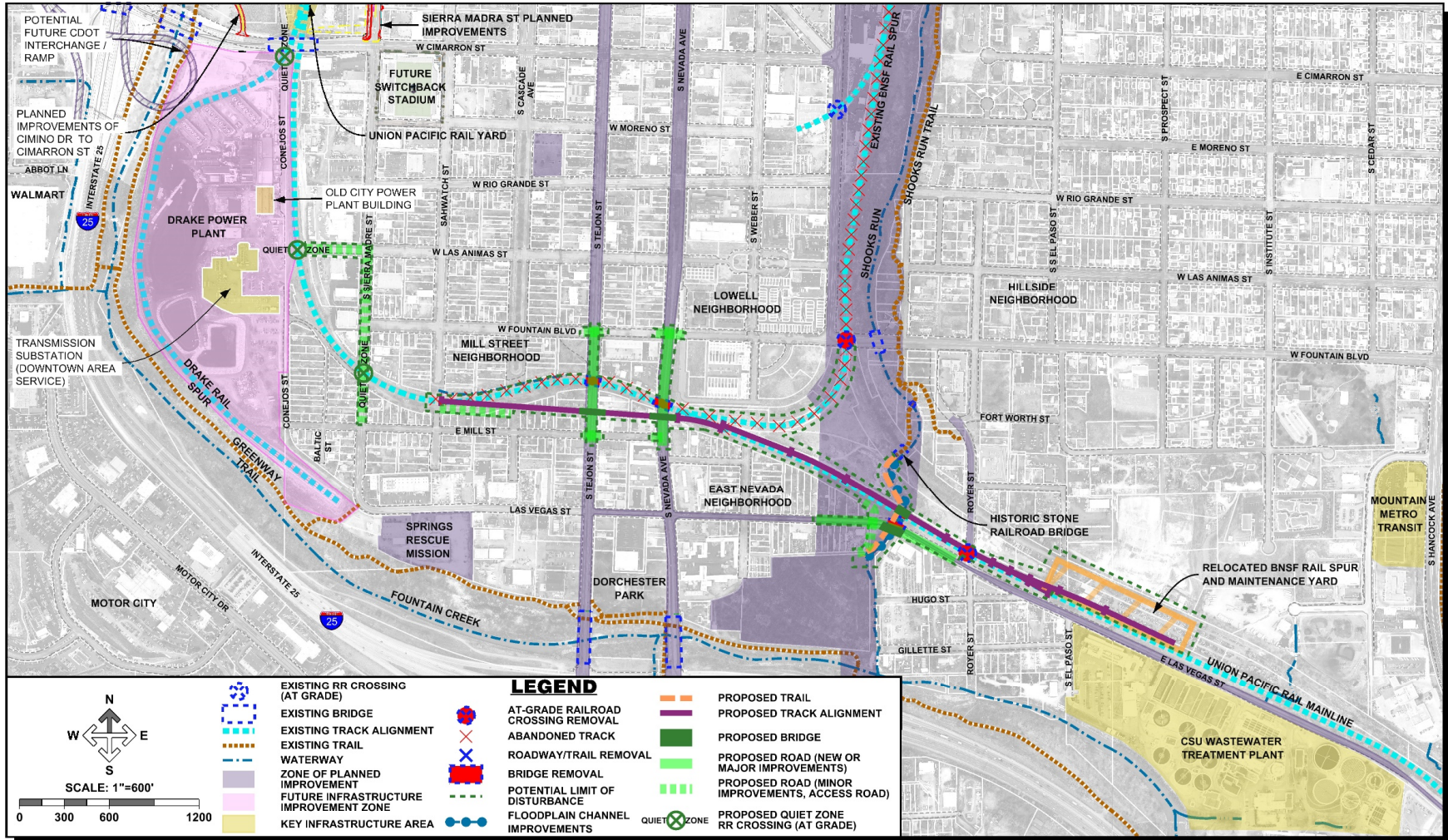


Cost Estimates

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Alternative H | \$53.7 Million |
| Alternative M1 | \$42.0 Million (Preferred Alternative) |
| Alternative M2 | \$47.0 Million |
| Alternative N | \$111.0 Million |
| Alternative O | \$122.0 Million |

(These estimates were developed without the Las Vegas/Trail Improvements)

South Downtown Rail Underpass Reconstruction Preferred Alternative



South Downtown Rail Underpass Reconstruction

Progress Report - September 2020

PROJECT PLANNING

- Completed Final Planning Reports (Website) and identified Preferred Alternative (Back Page)

PROJECT COST & FUNDING

- Cost: \$42M to \$48M
- Potential Funding Sources:
 - BNSF Railway
 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - Local (Requires ballot initiative voter approval)
 - Others? (i.e. Federal Railroad Administration Grant)

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Preliminary Design: 2020-2021
- Local Funding Ballot Initiative: November 2022
- Final Design: May be postponed until November 2022 vote
- Construction: No earlier than 2025

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN PROJECT?

- Track Realignment from Sawatch to east of Nevada Avenue
- Nevada Avenue and Tejon Street Bridge Replacements
- Bike & Pedestrian Safety Improvements – Nevada Avenue & Tejon Street
- Quiet Zone At-Grade Crossings - Conejos-Las Animas-Sierra Madre
- Las Vegas Roadway & Bridge Replacement at Shooks Run
- Legacy Loop Trail Connection at Shooks Run
- Shooks Run Railroad Bridge Replacements & Yard Relocation
- Other safety/mobility improvements (sidewalks/fencing)

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

- Preliminary Engineering Design and Urban Design Alternatives Development
- Ongoing City-Impacted Property Owner Meetings

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT?

- City Planning Work Session – Urban Design Alternatives
- Stakeholder Meeting – Urban Design Alternatives
- Public Meeting
- Website Update

